

## **Techies in Residence Seed Fund 2021**

### **Criteria and Guidelines**

The aim of the Techies in Residence Seed Fund is:

“To enable the further development testing and public launch of the prototypes developed during the Techies in Residence programme.”

Total grant fund available is £67,000. Five grants of £12,000 are available. In addition, for organisations that are unsuccessful, a smaller Development Grant of up to £3500 will be made available. Development grants must be spent within 6 months for the Letter of Offer.

Maximum grant size is £12,000 and these funds must be spent within 12 months of the date of the Letter of Offer. All projects must complete no later than 30th June 2022. [CFNI's standard terms and conditions](#) will apply.

The Seed Fund is financed by Comic Relief and the Community Foundation.

### **Eligibility:**

Applicants to the Techies in Residence Seed Fund is by invitation only and is restricted to the 7 VCSE organisations who have participated in the Techies in Residence programme 2020/21.

Applicants must

- be a duly constituted, non-statutory and non-profit organisation - most commonly a Charity, a Company limited by guarantee, or a Community Interest Company.
- have an active management committee, with no two related cheque signatories,
- Have a current bank account in the name of your organisation and be in credit.
- Have up to date annual accounts

## **Application Process:**

Applications will comprise two parts:

1. A written application **(For eligibility assessment only)**
2. A presentation to an audience at the TiR Showcasing event.

**Decisions will be made by the audience at the Techies in Residence showcase event via an online voting platform to determine the five organisations who will receive a Seed Fund Award.**

Further details below.

### **Written application:**

Applicants are invited to submit a short written application in advance of the showcase event, and whilst this will not be part of the decision-making process, CFNI will use it to check the following:

- Is the application in line with the stated purpose of the fund
- Do the proposed objectives, activities and budget seem logical and achievable
- Due diligence checks on the applicant organisation

If there are any concerns in relation to the above, organisations will have an opportunity to make amendments to their application prior to the showcase event.

The deadline for written applications will be **Friday 30th April at 1pm.**

[Click here to access the online application form](#)

### **Presentation at the TiR Showcasing event:**

The Showcasing event will take place on Thursday 20th May 2021. This will be an online event and the pitch for the Seed Fund will take place during this event.

Applicants are invited to present their project idea in the form of a 4 minute pre-recorded video presentation. **Final date for submission of presentation is Wednesday 12th May 2020 to [gmccaughley@communityfoundationni.org](mailto:gmccaughley@communityfoundationni.org) Files that are too large should be sent via [Wetransfer](#) to this email address.**

The audience will then have an opportunity for a short Q&A with the applicants to further explore the project proposal.

**Presentation guidelines:** This presentation must directly relate to the project proposal outlined in the written application and be related to the platform or service developed during the TiR Programme 2020/21

The presentation should be no more than 4 minutes and should cover the following areas. Both the VCSE organisation and the Techie should be involved in the pitch. You can be as creative and innovative as you like in your presentation but you should include the following:

- **2 minutes: Your Journey so far**

Introduce yourselves briefly. Describe why and how you developed your prototype – what was the challenge and who will ultimately benefit. Show your prototype on the screen, ideally via a short video walkthrough.

- **2 minutes: Your Journey from here**

How a Seed Fund award will support the next stage of development for your project. What you would do with the money, the likely impact for beneficiaries & how you will make it sustainable and impactful in the longer term.

This should match what you have put in your written application proposal

See below for criteria for decision making

Presentation format guidance: The full video presentation should be provided as one video file. It should be in mp4 format. You can record your presentation in zoom. Please ensure that the final presentation is ready to be presented to an audience and the sound is audible. Ensure that each person who speaks, states who they are and their role in the project. Ensure you have photographic and video consent from

all involved in the video presentation, for publicity and promotional purposes by CFNI. This includes parental consent if video includes children.

For reference purposes: The Techies in Residence programme is a Community Foundation initiative and is funded by Comic Relief. Innovate-NI are delivery partners for the Techies in Residence programme. Seed Fund is provided by Comic Relief and Community Foundation.

### **Decision-making:**

A participatory grant making process will determine the outcome for Seed Fund awards. Decisions will be made by the audience at the Techies in Residence showcase event via an online voting platform to determine a rank order for allocation for the Seed Fund awards

The 5 applicants with the most votes will receive a Seed Fund award of up to £12,000, to be spent within 12 months. Remaining applicants will be offered a Development Grant of up to £3,500 to be spent within 6 months.

### **The criteria to be used by the audience for decision-making at the showcase event are as follows:**

1. Which projects have most potential to benefit individuals and communities
2. Which projects have demonstrated the most creativity and innovation in developing their prototype
3. Which projects have the clearest idea for what they will use the Seed Fund grant for
4. Which projects seem most likely to be sustainable

An Audience Participation Digital Voting system will be in place to determine a rank order for those who shall receive an award. The following rules will apply:

- The showcase event will be open to the public. Individual organisations will be permitted a maximum of 10 representatives at the event.
- Every individual audience member, with the exception of CFNI and Innovate-NI staff that have been directly involved in programme delivery, will have 5 votes.

- These votes must all be used and with only 1 vote per project. If the total number of votes cast does not match the number of participants, the vote will be re-run.

Those organisations that do not receive a Seed Fund award and are instead offered a Development Grant, a short budget and activity plan will be requested by CFNI in relation to this, after the showcase event.

**Final decisions will be announced to the audience at the Showcasing event.**